



CBP attachés and representatives are critical to the success of CBP's strategy of extending America's zone of security outward beyond U.S. borders.

These individuals are the CBP subject matter experts at embassies across the world. They provide in-country support for CBP, and also serve as champions for Department of Homeland Security and CBP international programs.

In August 2004, CBP began placing attachés and representatives at foreign embassies to oversee CBP operational programs, including:

- The Container Security Initiative (CSI).
- The Immigration Advisory Program (IAP).
- The Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT).
- Capacity building, which is assistance to foreign countries in building up their customs administrations to worldwide standards.

Currently, there are 14 countries with CBP attachés/representatives. CBP's goal is to reach 22 countries by October 1, 2007.

Attaché/Representative Locations

Bahamas	Mexico
Belgium	The Netherlands
Canada	Panama
Germany	Philippines
Hong Kong	Singapore
Italy	South Africa
Japan	United Kingdom

Impact

U.S. missions and foreign governments benefit from the program by having in-country expertise. This brings:

- Improved international supply chain security.
- Expanded cargo security awareness.
- Expediting the legitimate flow of passengers and cargo between countries.
- Greater technology awareness between CBP and foreign counterparts.
- Increased passenger security for airlines of both countries.

The CBP attachés and representatives represent CBP in the overall planning/organization, administration and coordination of all CBP activities internationally. This critical leadership role provides assistance in directing border security, operational program and cargo and passenger security. This involves responding to inquiries involving transportation requests, carrier and liaison issues directed to the public and inter-agency activities concerning both United States government and the host government.

The CBP attachés/representatives work in the American embassy and are recognized as the CBP experts overseas on CBP activities and policies. They represent CBP in negotiations with foreign representatives regarding controversial issues and provide the leadership and direction to CBP officials and foreign service nationals. They assist the foreign community regarding issues and legislation that impacts international and trade relationships relative to securing the borders from beyond.